

# PED Smoke or Fire Response Kits

## NOTE

*This paper supersedes 22POS07 – of the same name.*

## BACKGROUND

A wide range of containment bags or boxes and/or gloves has been provided for crew member use as part of their Dangerous Goods smoke or fire response kits to deal with Portable Electronic Device (PED) thermal runaway.

IFALPA's main concern with the use of these items is the process of safely handling a reacting PED. Lithium battery thermal runaway tends to propagate from cell to cell, making it difficult to determine when all reactions have ceased and therefore when it is safe to move the PED.

There are various means to mitigate the risk from a reacting PED, from the early onset of battery failure up to full thermal runaway. At least one standard is already available for devices to contain these hazardous effects. Additionally, cooling a reacting PED with large amounts of non-alcoholic liquid has been demonstrated to be very effective in controlling the propagation of the thermal runaway.

## POSITION

IFALPA believes that the provision of PED smoke or fire response kits is only acceptable provided:

- they have been tested to a recognized standard;
- a safe method of transferring reacting PEDs has been demonstrated;
- adequate procedures have been developed, taking into account the kit's demonstrated capability;
- training and education appropriate to the kit(s) have been provided by the operator to all crew members; and
- training on when a device is safe to handle has been provided to all crew members.